HOUSE No. 78

By Ms. Wolf of Cambridge, petition of Alice K. Wolf and others for legislation to prohibit compensating persons for signatures obtained on initiative or referendum petitions. Election Laws.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PETITION OF:

Alice K. Wolf

Michael E. Festa

Denis E. Guyer

Kay Khan

Patricia D. Jehlen

Alice Hanlon Peisch

Cory Atkins

Thomas J. O'Brien

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

AN ACT FURTHER REGULATING INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM PETITIONS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

- 1 Section 22A of chapter 53 of the General Laws, as appearing in
- 2 the 2000 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding the
- 3 following two sentences:— It shall be unlawful to pay or receive
- 4 money or other things of value based on the number of signatures
- 5 obtained on an initiative or referendum petition. Nothing herein
- 6 prohibits payment for signature gathering which is not based,
- 7 either directly or indirectly, on the number of signatures obtained.